

# INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE REVIEW



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Bulletin #55: Britain Reportedly Gives Ukraine Green Light For Long-Range Strikes

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## Britain Reportedly Gives Ukraine Green Light For Long-Range Strikes

Current Time

41–52 minutes

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A British Royal Air Force Tornado GR4 aircraft is pictured fitted with a Storm Shadow cruise missile directly under the fuselage. (file photo)

Media reports say Britain, behind closed doors, has given Ukraine the [green light](#) to use its Storm Shadow missiles for long-range strikes deep into Russian territory as Moscow's troops again targeted energy facilities and civilian infrastructure in Ukraine's northeast overnight, injuring at least 14 people.

## Live Briefing: Russia's Invasion Of Ukraine



RFE/RL's [Live Briefing](#) gives you all of the latest developments on Russia's full-scale invasion, Kyiv's counteroffensive, Western military aid, global reaction, and the plight of civilians. For all of RFE/RL's coverage of the war in Ukraine, [click here](#).

According to [The Guardian](#) newspaper, government sources said a decision has already been made to allow Kyiv to use the British-made cruise missiles inside Russia, although the move has not been announced and is unlikely to be made public even when British Prime Minister Keir Starmer meets with U.S. President Joe Biden in Washington on September 13. British officials have not confirmed The Guardian report.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy has been pleading with Kyiv's allies for months to allow Ukraine to fire Western weapons, including long-range U.S. ATACMS and British Storm Shadows, deep into Russian territory to limit Moscow's ability to launch attacks.

Biden said earlier this week that his administration is "working out" a way to lift the restrictions, though he gave no specifics.

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Antony Blinken hinted strongly during a trip to Kyiv on September 11 that the White House is on the verge of lifting restrictions on the usage of its long-range weapons.

"We're working with urgency to continue to ensure that Ukraine has what it needs to effectively defend itself," he said at a press conference after meeting with British Foreign Secretary David Lammy and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiha.

The Sumy regional military administration said Russia had used Shahed-type suicide drones in the overnight attack, with the mayor of the city of Konotop, Artem Semenikhin, saying on Telegram that the attacks had cut power in parts of the town and work was under way to restore electricity and water. He said energy infrastructure had suffered significant damage.



Photo Gallery:

### **Fath-360: The Iranian Missile Reportedly In Russian Hands**

- [RFE/RL](#)

Recent media reports claim Russia has received Fath-360 missile systems from Iran, along with hundreds of missiles. Here is what that weapon system looks like, and how it could influence the war in Ukraine.

Russia has systematically targeted Ukraine's critical energy infrastructure, causing enormous damage and limiting electricity supply for the civilian population, prompting regular blackouts.

In return, Ukrainian drones have struck deeper inside Russia, damaging energy facilities critical for Moscow's military effort, mainly oil installations.

Blinken and Lammy left Ukraine after meeting with Ukrainian officials in Kyiv and announcing a new aid package.

Blinken announced more than \$700 million in aid, much of it to bolster Ukraine's energy grid, while Lammy confirmed that his country would provide another 600 million pounds (\$782 million) in assistance and loan guarantees.